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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Thirteenth session,
Geneva, 7-17 July 1997,
agenda item 3 (d))

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Other draft amendments

Proposal for amendment to Chapter 3.4 - Limited Quantities

Transport of samples of unknown properties

Transmitted by the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)

Introduction

The transport of small samples of products for which all dangerous properties are not known is often necessary e.g. sending of sample to a laboratory to determine its dangerous properties for transport classification purposes; the correct classification of such products is not possible and therefore the right transport conditions cannot be specified.
The research departments need appropriate recommendations for the transport of such not fully tested samples in small quantities.

Proposal

Insert in Chapter 3.4 dealing with "Limited Quantities" a subsection dealing with "Samples of unknown properties" including the following paragraph :

1. The recommendations of this subsection concern the transport of samples which are not fully tested and, therefore, all dangerous properties are not known.

2. The recommendations, hereafter, do only apply to substances (including mixture and solution) which might have dangerous properties but are not completely tested. They do not apply to explosives, gases, organic peroxides, infectious substances or radioactive material.

3. Dangerous goods samples transported according to these special recommendations should be transported in quantities up to 2.5 kg in inner packagings in suitable outer packagings.
The packagings should meet the requirements of 4.1.1.1, 4.1.1.2, 4.1.1.3, 4.1.1.4, 4.1.1.5, 4.1.1.7 and 4.1.1.8. They should be so designed that they meet the construction requirements of 7.1.4.

4. Dangerous goods samples may not be packed together with other dangerous or non dangerous goods.

5. Dangerous goods samples may not be loaded in a vehicle or freight container together with packagings bearing the labels N° 1, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 01 according to 5.2.2.2.2.1 and 5.2.2.2.2.2.

6. Packages of dangerous goods samples transported according to these special recommendations need not be labelled. They should be durably marked as "DANGEROUS GOODS-SAMPLE" on the outer packaging.

7. For consignments of dangerous goods samples the requirements for documentation specified in 13.6 do not apply. The transport document should include the description "Dangerous goods-sample(s)" and the total quantity covered by the description (by volume or mass).